

# CARNAGE IN WAR OF STRIKERS AND TROOPS GOES ON

Sixty Persons Penned in Mines  
Set Afire to Avenge Deaths  
of Women and Children.

TRINIDAD, Col., April 23.—Warfare between striking coal miners on one side and members of the State militia on the other which has rolled up a heavy toll of death and an enormous property loss in the Trinidad district of the Colorado coal fields, since last Monday, has resulted in bitter hatred between the two factions which, it seemed to-day, could not be satisfied except by further loss of life.

With the information that the entire quota of State troops was on the way to relieve the beleaguered troops now fighting against more than 5,000 desperate men who are struggling for what they declare is a principle, came also the information that reinforcements had been received by the striking miners.

Trinidad waited with anxiety news that the troops had arrived safely. Report had it late last night that 1,000 heavily armed strikers were mobilizing near Aguilar—a portion of the strike district which was terrorized by them all yesterday—to attack the troop trains upon their arrival. Train derailleurs were known to be in the possession of the strikers, and should they attempt to throw the troop trains from the rails a bloody conflict is expected. Adjutant General Chase was notified of the reported intention of the strikers.

There is carnage throughout the entire district. The strikers are accused of using dynamite in their warfare and of setting ablaze mines in which women and children, among others, have taken refuge to escape being

shot down.

Thirty-five persons, including five women and three children, reported trapped in the blazing shaft house of the Empire Coal Mining Company's mine at Empire, if not already dead, are in grave danger of death, according to telephone advices from here at an early hour to-day. Twenty-five persons in the shaft of the Southwestern mine at Aguilar are also said to be in imminent peril of losing their lives.

Matthew Waddell, son of the superintendent, and his wife, Ray Waddell, his wife and baby, and three other women and two children whose names are not available are said to be in the mine at Empire.

Concerning the fate of those trapped in the Empire mine, no encouraging report had been received here to-day. H. K. King, one of the owners of the mine, feared that they had been suffocated by the smoke from the smoldering tipple which had been fired yesterday and the subsequent blocking of the mine entrance by the discharge of dynamite hurled at the mine.

There were rumors to-day that all buildings at Hastings, De Laguna and other mine camps in this district were rased by fire at the hands of strikers. Trinidad is in constant fear from violence at the hands of the many mobs who pass in the streets.

The burning of the Empire mine followed a clash early Wednesday between mine guards and Southwestern Colorado coal strikers. Operators' representatives here accuse the strikers of throwing dynamite bombs and sealing the mouth of the mine against escape by the thirty-five persons imprisoned within. King, in telephoning of the possible fate of the imprisoned ones, asserted that 500 armed strikers surrounded the blazing pit, firing into it, and that the imprisoned persons include President Sipple of the mining company, living in Denver. He charges that strikers have warned him to remember how the women and children died at Ludlow, and have threatened to "shoot any one who goes to the rescue."

Operators early to-day said they had reports that six coal properties are burning, including the Victor-American Fuel Company's Hastings and Delagua mines; and the Green Canyon mine of the National Fuel Company.

Scores are homeless and missing and many are reported hurt while in the hills.

The entire strike district, from Rouse, twelve miles south of Walsenburg, to Delagua, four miles northwest of Ludlow station, is in the possession of the strikers. Armed men are gathering about the coal camps at Rugby, Frimero and Black Diamond, and attacks on these are momentarily expected. Three battles were fought yesterday at Delagua, the Black Hills and the Empire mine. Three guards were slain at Delagua and two are missing. Meanwhile three hundred armed men are reported marching to Ludlow to make an attack on the militia companies stationed there under Major P. J. Hamrock. Hamrock telephoned that he has 100 troops and two machine guns to oppose them. On account of this fact, Hamrock has been unable to send soldiers to Empire to check the flames or defend the lives of persons imprisoned in the mine.

Mayor Dunleavy and other officials in this section have telegraphed President Wilson to send Federal troops, asserting that only in that way will civil war be averted in Colorado.

Meantime the search of the ruins of the burned Ludlow tent colony continues. Red Cross agents last night removed the bodies of eleven

children and two women from a cave near the burned tents. The victims were all huddled together.

The body of Charles Costa was found on the outskirts of the colony. The children were all under nine years of age.

State Labor Commissioner E. V. Burke, Rev. Randolph Cook, Rev. J. O. Ferris, John McJannet and five women nurses were members of the party that searched the ruins for bodies.

"If you have any help you can send rush it to Rouse immediately. Strikers have big bunch and are coming this way."

This message was received at the Trinidad offices of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company early today from Supt. W. G. Deek.

Another large body of armed men still is besieging the wrecked mining camp of the Southwestern Fuel Company at Empire, according to a telephone report from H. K. King early to-day, just before the wires went down. The King family have been prisoners in their home since yesterday noon.

**BIG FORCE OF TROOPS  
'OFF TO FIGHT STRIKERS.'**

DENVER, Colo., April 23.—Continued looting and rioting in the Southern Colorado strike zone caused Lieut.-Gov. Stephen R. Fitzgerald last night to order Adj.-Gen. Chase to train forthwith for the strike zone with as many members of the State militia as he considered necessary to

restore order in that section of the State, and to arrange for the issuance of a proclamation calling a special session of the State Legislature to finance the maintenance of the militia in the strike zone.

Adj.-Gen. Chase immediately issued a call for all branches of service in the Colorado National Guard to mobilize and entrain for Trinidad. Two troops of cavalry left Denver in a special train at midnight.

The Lieutenant-Governor's action came after a conference with leading business men of the city and State, who guaranteed payment on warrants issued to the privates of the militia and following reports from fresh atrocities in the strike zone. Concerning the events of the last three days in the Trinidad district, Lieut.-Gov. Fitzgerald said:

"My investigation of the riots near Trinidad has disclosed the most terrible conditions—conditions which have never been equalled in this or any other State, not even West Virginia. Even granting all of the strikers' claims concerning the actions of the militia, it is not justifiable that the strikers themselves should murder women and children as they have done to-day and are doing now for them to burn and destroy hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of property."

"They have no justification for murdering men whose only offense is that they are seeking to earn a living without a permit from the United Mine Workers of America."

"The trouble was started by the strikers killing a non-union miner whose only offense was in walking to his work without their permission."

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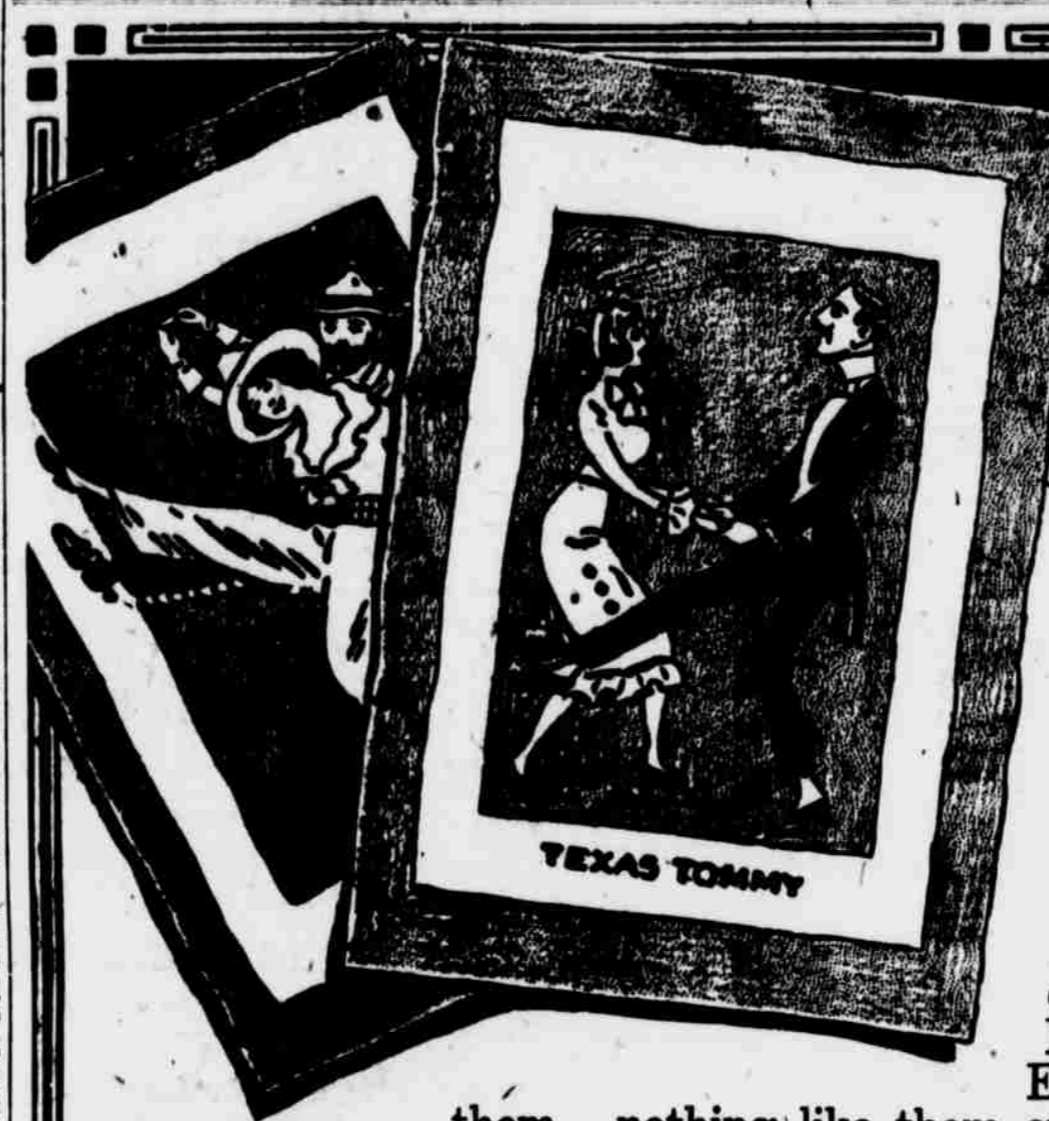
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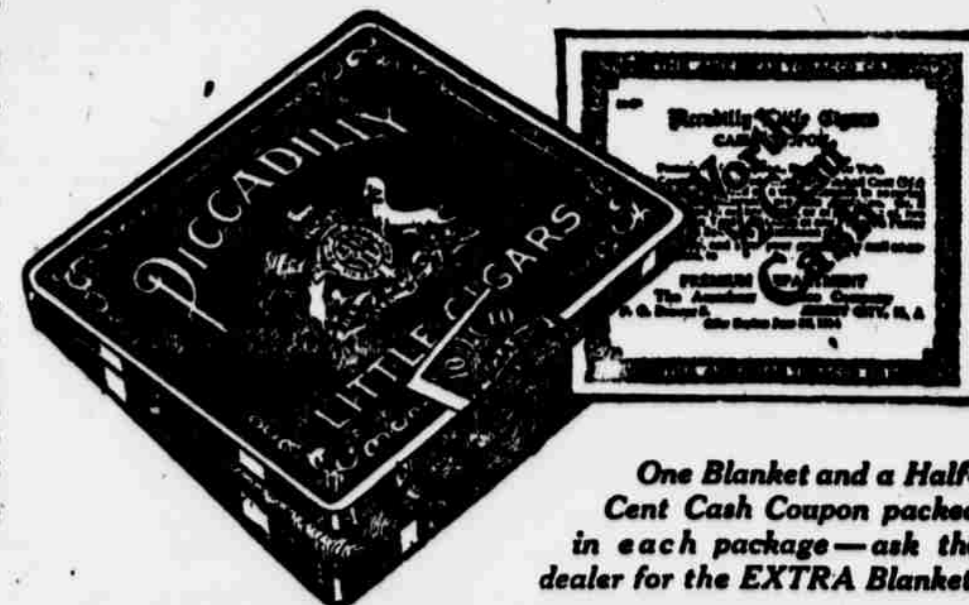
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